

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND INLAND FISHERIES

PERMIT APPLICATION

To Operate A Foxhound Training Preserve

(Under Authority of § 29.1-412, § 29.1-417, § 29.1-103 of the Code of Virginia, 4 VAC 15-110-75, 4 VAC 15-20-200)

Non-refundable Application Fee: \$50.00

Permit (circle one): **NEW** **RENEWAL** Previous VDGIF Permit No. _____

Name of Applicant _____

Address _____

_____ County _____

Telephone Number (_____) _____

Name and location of Foxhound Training Preserve facility, if different from above.

_____ County _____

ACREAGE OF TRAINING PRESERVE ENCLOSURE _____

Is your facility open to the public? YES _____ NO _____

NOTE: Live trapped foxes may be released only in foxhound training preserves that are opened to the public. The permittee's registry is subject to inspection by VDGIF personnel at any reasonable time.

NOTE: As requested in the permit conditions, please attach a map per the instructions listed under the section entitled Enclosure Size.

Have you ever been convicted of violating any federal or state wildlife laws or wildlife-related regulations?
Yes ___ No ___ If "yes," year and nature of offense: _____

Applicant signature _____ Date _____

By my signature above, I hereby certify that all entries made on this application are true and complete, and I agree and understand that any falsification of information herein, regardless of time of discovery, may result in denial or revocation of my permit.

Make non-refundable application fee check payable to: **Treasurer of Virginia** and
return to: Permits Section, VDGIF, P.O. Box 11104, Richmond, Virginia 23230-1104

THIS PERMIT EXPIRES JULY 31, 2007

FOR FOXHOUND TRAINING PRESERVE TRAPPERS LIST

NOTE: If the trappers list is not submitted with the original application, fox may not be accepted from any source until the trappers list is received and a revised permit is reissued to the applicant. A copy of the official computer generated licensed trappers list must be distributed to and in the possession of the designated licensed trapper(s) when trapping, transporting, or in possession, of live foxes.

Name of Permittee: _____ Name of Foxhound Training Preserve: _____

The following **licensed Virginia trappers** (maximum of ten) are designated by the above mentioned permittee to live-trap wild, red and/or gray foxes for stocking in foxhound training preserve as listed above:

LICENSED TRAPPERS:

Name	Address	City	State	Zip	Area Code	Telephone
1	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
3	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
4	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
5	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
6	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
7	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
8	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
9	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
10	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

NOTE: The original trappers list will be maintained on file in our Richmond Office. Revisions to this list may be made during the current permitting year, however, applicants are strongly encouraged to keep modifications to a minimum. If you need to alter your list, please notify Permitting Section in writing of your requested changes and a revised permit will be issued to you. Official copies of the revised computer generated list must be distributed to all listed trappers and the previous versions destroyed.

Signature of Permittee

Date

PERMIT CONDITIONS FOR THE OPERATION OF FOXHOUND TRAINING PRESERVES IN VIRGINIA

I. PERMIT REQUIREMENTS AND RENEWAL INFORMATION

A. All persons operating a foxhound training preserve shall be required to possess a valid permit issued by the Department. The annual fee for this permit shall be \$50.00 as provided by 29.1-417 of the Code of Virginia and 4 VAC 15-20-200.

B. Prior to a new preserve being permitted, a facilities inspection must be performed by a Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries law enforcement officer.

C. Provided that the issuance of a permit renewal has been delayed past the expiration date of the permittee's previous permit at no fault of the applicant, the permittee may continue the specific activities authorized by the expired permit until the Department has acted on such person's application for renewal. To qualify for this allowance, applicants must submit a completed renewal application to the Department at least 30 days prior to the expiration date of the permit. The Department may deny renewal of a permit to any applicant who fails to meet the issuance criteria set forth by the Department (4 VAC 15-30-7). Permit renewal applications will be mailed to applicants approximately two months in advance of their permit expiration date.

II. LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

A. Except as specifically provided by law, every person participating in the training of foxhounds in a preserve is required to possess a valid Virginia hunting license. Resident and non-resident participants are not required to have a hunting license when participating in a Department authorized Dog Field Trial conducted at a permitted foxhound training preserve. No dog field trials shall be held on any foxhound training preserves without first having obtained a Dog Field Trial Permit from VDGIF. In accordance with §29.1-422, permits for field trials with dogs may be authorized by the department during the period between August 1 to May 31, both dates inclusive, under conditions and for the species specified in the permit, except that permits for foxhound field trials held within foxhound training preserves may be authorized by the department at any time. (4 VAC 15-290-115)

B. Foxhound training preserves must be in compliance with all applicable state and local ordinances and laws.

III. RECORDS AND REPORTS

A. The permittee shall maintain a complete and accurate registry which shall include each hunter's name, address and phone number, the date of hunt, and the number of dogs per hunt. This registry shall be kept current, retained for two years and is subject to inspection by VDGIF personnel at any reasonable time. The permittee shall maintain and report complete and accurate records on a form provided by the Department on the number, species (red or gray) and source of all foxes trapped within the Commonwealth and stocked in the preserve, including the name and address of each trapper, the county of origin of the relocated foxes and the capture and release dates for each fox. The report form shall be submitted by the permittee to the Department's Permit Section by March 15th of each permit year. Failure to submit the report will result in the permit not being renewed the following fiscal year. The permittee shall also notify the Department's Wildlife Division regarding any unusual mortality or die-offs involving any species of wildlife within the preserve.

IV. DISEASE PREVENTION

A. The VDGIF may require specific health management procedures as deemed necessary, including mandatory disease investigation, testing and disease reporting. Inspection and/or treatment of foxes by a licensed veterinarian may be required at the sole expense of the permittee.

B. The VDGIF may suspend the operation of any preserve or halt the stocking of foxes at anytime when warranted due to the threat or presence of wildlife diseases or parasites which may affect wildlife, domestic livestock or public safety. In the event of disease outbreaks, costs associated with the testing, depopulating, cleaning and disinfecting shall be the sole expense of the permittee.

C. The VDGIF may prohibit release of animals that are diseased or have been exposed to diseased animals. The Department shall also reserve the right to conduct disease testing of translocated foxes and all other species of wildlife in the foxhound training preserves.

V. ANIMAL WELFARE

A. All foxhound training preserves shall provide the necessary habitat to meet the food, water and cover requirements of wild foxes. Animals being transported or held for release shall likewise be kept in a safe, sanitary and humane manner, with available food and water, and protection from the elements. Such conditions are subject to approval by the Department.

B. Any fox injured during hunts shall be removed from the pen, appropriately treated, returned to the pen or euthanized. Injured foxes are not to be maintained in the preserves.

C. It will be incumbent upon the permittee to exercise good stewardship of the wildlife resources on their preserves.

D. Hunting of any species other than foxes is prohibited within the foxhound training preserve unless otherwise provided for by the Department.

VI. ENCLOSURE SIZE

A. Minimum size of a foxhound training preserve shall be 100 contiguous acres completely fenced.

B. A 7-1/2 minute (1:24,000) topographic map indicating the fenced area along with the names and addresses of adjacent landowners must be on file with the Department. If any landowners change, or if the boundaries are altered, a new map must be submitted.

VII. FENCING REQUIREMENTS

Fencing for a foxhound training preserve must be capable of preventing foxes and hounds from entering or escaping the enclosure. The permittee is encouraged to provide double strands of barbed wire at the top and electric wire at the bottom of the perimeter fencing and all gates around the foxhound training preserves.

VIII. ARTIFICIAL DENS

Dog-proof escape areas (natural or artificial) shall be available at a rate of 1 for every 20 acres of enclosure. Each escape area or device must be readily available and must not be immediately adjacent to any other such area or device.

IX. STOCKING

- A. **ONLY** wild, live-trapped red and gray fox may be released into foxhound training preserves.
- B. Live-trapped wild foxes may be released only in foxhound training preserves that are **open to the public** and operating under a valid permit issued by the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries.
- C. Fox may be live-trapped only for stocking foxhound training preserves within the Commonwealth of Virginia.
- D. This permit does not allow the importation of foxes from out-of-state.

E. For the purpose of stocking foxhound training preserves, foxes may be live-trapped from September 1 through the last day in February, both dates inclusive (4 VAC 15-110-75). Foxes may only be live-trapped on private land (with landowner permission) or public lands designated by the Department in counties where fox trapping is permitted. Fox trapping is prohibited in the counties of Clarke, Fauquier, Loudoun and Rappahannock. Traps used to live-capture foxes shall be identified with nonferrous metal tags bearing the name and address of the trapper.

F. All foxes live-trapped, held and transported for release, must be taken by legal means and kept in safe, sanitary and humane conditions with water and food available and with protection from the elements at all times. Trappers are encouraged to utilize padded jaw traps or other modified traps to prevent injury to live-trapped foxes.

G. Nothing in this permit is intended to authorize the buying or selling of live wild animals. Wild animals are and remain the property of the Commonwealth (§ 29.1-557 of the Code of Virginia).

H. The permittee or no more than ten licensed trappers designated by the permittee may live trap and transport red and gray foxes from September 1 through the last day in February for the purpose of stocking foxhound training preserves.

I. Foxes may be retained by the permittee's designated trapper(s) for no more than seven days following their capture with the understanding that all foxes must be trapped, and transported to the foxhound training preserve, on or before the last day in February. Records shall be maintained by the trappers on the length of time each fox is retained in their possession. The records shall be kept up to date during the permit year and are subject to inspection by VDGIF personnel at any reasonable time. Foxhound training preserves may place the fox that they are receiving from the trappers into confinement pens at the training preserve for a period not to exceed seven days with the understanding that all foxes must be released into an acclimation training enclosure or training preserve enclosure on or before March 7th annually. Training preserve operators must maintain records on, and submit on the reporting forms, the dates that all fox are released into the foxhound training preserve.

J. Under no circumstances shall foxes be live trapped and/or relocated from one preserve to another permittee's preserve. However, foxes may be transported from acclimation training enclosures to a training enclosure of the same permittee. A foxhound training preserve may not serve as a holding facility for another permittee's preserve.

X. COMPLIANCE/VIOLATION/REVOCATION

A. Regulation 4 VAC 15-290-130 states that a permit holder shall comply with all terms and conditions of any permit issued by the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries pursuant to Title 29.1 of the Code of Virginia and the regulations of the board pertaining to hunting, fishing, trapping, attempting to take, possession, sale, offering for sale, transporting or causing to be transported, importing or exporting, propagating, exhibiting, and rehabilitating of any wild bird, wild animal or fish. The penalty for violation of this section is a Class 3 misdemeanor unless another penalty is specified. Further, any violation of state or federal wildlife laws related to the permitted activities by the permittee, his/her agents or employees, or guests will constitute a violation of the conditions of the permit.

B. As provided by 4 VAC 15-30-5, failure to comply with the provisions of a permit may result in the revocation or suspension of the permit for a period up to but not to exceed five (5) years. Any person whose permit is revoked, or suspended may appeal that decision in writing, to the Director, Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, 4010 W. Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23230.

C. If a permit is revoked or a permit is not renewed for any other reason the permittee shall provide the means to allow the foxes to disperse naturally from the preserve within 30 days of the revocation or failure to renew.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND INLAND FISHERIES

ANNUAL REPORTING FORM FOR THE RELEASE OF LIVE-TRAPPED FOXES ON FOXHOUND TRAINING PRESERVES

NAME _____ VDGIF PERMIT # _____ PAGE _____ OF _____

ADDRESS _____ TELEPHONE # (_____) _____

DATE CAPTURED	SPECIES (Red or Gray)	NUMBER CAUGHT	COUNTY WHERE TRAPPED	TRAPPER'S NAME AND FULL ADDRESS	NUMBER DELIVERED TO THE PRESERVE	DATE DELIVERED TO THE PRESERVE	NUMBER RELEASE D INTO THE PRESERVE	DATE(S) RELEASED INTO THE PRESERVE

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE _____

RETURN BY MARCH 15 to: Permits Section, Dept. of Game and Inland Fisheries, P. O. Box 11104, Richmond, VA 23230-1104 (804) 367-9588

(Failure to report will be grounds for the permit not to be renewed.)
(INCOMPLETE OR INACCURATE REPORTS WILL BE RETURNED TO THE PERMITTEE FOR COMPLETION AND RESUBMISSION.)